

Message Text

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ORIGIN SAB-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /080 R

DRAFTED BY S/AB:RCBARKLEY:JK

APPROVED BY S/AB:AMB. BUNKER

EUR/EE - ALAN THOMPSON

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R 051706Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054365

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: YO, PN, PFOR

SUBJECT: TITO'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO PANAMA

„ YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI CALLED ON AMBASSADOR BUNKER MARCH 4 TO DISCUSS THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH TITO'S SCHEDULED VISIT TO PANAMA NEXT WEEK. AMBASSADOR BUNKER BRIEFLY OUTLINED THE BACKGROUND OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, REPORTED IN SOME DETAIL ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE TALKS, NOTED THAT BOTH PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE PLEASED WITH PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE.

2. AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT FULLY APPRECIATED THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED AND SUPPORTED THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT
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YUGOSLAVIA HAD SUPPORTED PANAMANIAN INITIATIVES ON THE

CANAL IN THE UN AND IN THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS CONFERENCES
IN THE PAST AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. HE
IMPLIED, HOWEVER, THAT IF ANY NON-ALIGNED NATION OTHER THAN
PANAMA ATTEMPTED TO EXPLOIT THE ISSUE IN INTERNATIONAL
FORUMS, YUGOSLAVIA MAY TAKE A MORE MODERATE POSITION ON
THE PROBLEM. HE SAID HE WOULD INFORM TITO OF HIS CONVERSA-
TION WITH AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND ADVISE MODERATION IN

DISCUSSING THE ISSUE DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. KISSINGER

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To: PANAMA BELGRADE
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